44. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the β-sheet fibril is selected from the group consisting of amyloid-β peptide, amylin, amyloid A, prion-derived peptide, transthyretin, cystatin C, gelsolin and a peptide capable of forming amyloid.

45. (new) The method of claim 44, wherein the β-sheet fibril is an amyloid-β peptide is selected from the group consisting of Aβ (1-39), Aβ (1-40), Aβ (1-42) and Aβ (1-40) Dutch variant.

46. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the compound is sRAGE or a fragment thereof.

47. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the compound is an anti-RAGE antibody or portion thereof.

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48. (new) The method of claim 47, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

49. (new) The method of claim 48, wherein the monoclonal antibody is a human, a humanized, or a chimeric antibody.

50. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the compound comprises a Fab fragment of an anti-RAGE antibody.

51. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the compound comprises the variable domain of an anti-RAGE antibody.

52. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the compound comprises one or more CDR portions of an anti-RAGE antibody.

53. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the antibody is an IgG antibody.

54. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the compound comprises a peptide, peptidomimetic, a nucleic acid, or an organic compound with a molecular weight less than 500 daltons.

55. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the cell is an endothelial cell, a smooth muscle cell, a somatic cell, a bone marrow cell, a liver cell, an intestinal cell, a germ cell, a myocyte, a mononuclear phagocyte, a tumor cell, a spleen cell or a stem cell.

56. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the compound is a peptide analog of sRAGE.

57. (new) A method of inhibiting of the binding of a β-sheet fibril to RAGE on the surface of a cell of a subject, wherein the cell is located outside the central nervous system of the subject, which comprises administering to the subject